Building of heavy launch vehicles

2795. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have developed technology for building of heavy launch vehicles;

(b) if not, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) by when India is likely to be able to build and launch heavy satellite vehicles independently;

(d) the preparations made therefor; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (e) One of the major goals of the Indian Space programme is development of indigenous launch vehicles capable of launching both polar orbiting satellite for remote sensing applications and geostationery satellites for communications and meteorological applications in the country. In order to achieve the above goal, the launch vehicle capability is being enhanced in a phased manner. Work on the polar satellite launch vehicle (PSLV) project is in progress, targeted for launch during 1989-90. This will establish capability to launch remote sensing satellites of 1000 Kg. class. The space profile for the decade 1990-2000, which is under finalisation includes the development of launch capability for geo-synchronous missions of the INSAT class with the geo-synchronous satellite launch vehicle (GSLV). Some of the Research and Development activities for critical elements required for the GSLV have been initiated.

Using of indigenous technology for promotion of desalination

2796. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the primary tasks assumed by the Department of Ocean Development included promotion of desalination using exclusively indigenous technology, to supplement the potable water supply systems in coastal cities and in rural areas;

(b) what is the present status of the programme's implementation and the places covered by it so far ;

(c) whether the programme is implemented through the respective local water supply bodies or directly by the Department; and

(d) what is the target of the programme set to be achieved upto 8th Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The technology of reverse osmosis available with the Central salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute, Bhavnagar was promoted by the Department of Ocean Developmeet. After the necessary refinements it was handed over to the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited for commercial production of desalination plants in coastal towns and rural areas. Thus it is totally indigenous technology to supplement the shortage of potable water.